



Air Force Association

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An Independent Non Profit Aerospace Organization

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MEMORANDUM

TO: General Officers, U.S. Air Force

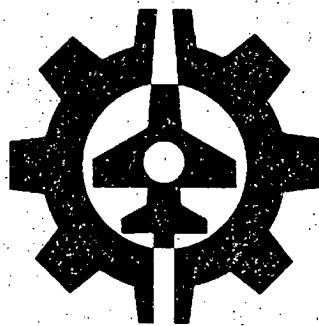
FROM: Sam E. Keith, Jr., President

SUBJECT: U.S. Defense Industry Base, A Special Report

The health and well-being of the defense industrial base is a matter of central importance to the security of the nation. Yet, the critical issues surrounding this aspect of our security are poorly understood. For that reason, I am very pleased to provide you with an important Air Force Association study, Lifeline in Danger: An Assessment of the United States Defense Industrial Base.

This study, produced in conjunction with the U.S. Naval Institute Military Database, and published by our Aerospace Education Foundation, provides a comprehensive review of the history of the US defense industrial base, its current status and problems, and prospects for the future.

We are proud of this six-month effort because we believe it provides a comprehensive view of the status, problems and prospects for the future. The problems, as the study vividly illustrates, require immediate and urgent attention. Through wide distribution, we are hopeful of calling nation-wide attention to the real possibility of our nation becoming a second-rate manufacturing and technological power, as well as highlighting our country's fast-growing dependence on foreign sources of raw materials and critical manufactured goods.



Lifeline in Danger

**An Assessment of the
United States
Defense Industrial Base**

The Air Force Association
The USNI Military Database

Published by
The Aerospace Education
Foundation